

Basic font selection

This document is not about choosing different default fonts. It's simply about what you can do with what you've got. You shouldn't have to use these commands much. If you want to emphasise what you're saying, use the `\emph{}` command. That should be all you need in prose.

Font sizes

It's important to use these commands to choose your fontsize so that if you ever change the base font size of your document (with a class option), your larger things will scale appropriately:

tiny scriptsize footnotesize small normalsize

large Large LARGE huge Huge

Matching alternate fonts

You may have noticed that I use a number of different fonts for things in this document. They are all part of the same super-family “Computer Modern”, so they are designed to blend together nicely. See Table 1 for a list of every font you may possibly choose with default L^AT_EX font-changing commands.

There are two forms of font-choosing commands. The first is as I've used in the source for Table 1: `{\slshape slanted}` to typeset *slanted* (more often known as oblique); `{\bfseries bold}` to typeset **bold**; etc.

The other method is for changing short amounts of text at a time, and the commands are less complex than those above. `\textsf{sans serif}` will result in sans serif; `\textsc{Small Caps}` will give SMALL CAPS; etc. *This method is preferred*, because it automatically takes into account ‘italic correction’. Italic correction is a property of the font that corrects the spacing around a glyph that sticks out a lot. You will rarely have to use it manually, but there are two examples shown in Table 2.

Font description			L ^A T _E X command	
Family	Series	Shape	Closed	Open
Roman	Regular	Upright	<code>textrm</code>	<code>rmfamily</code>
		<i>Italic</i>	<code>textit</code>	<code>itshape</code>
		<i>Slanted</i>	<code>textsl</code>	<code>slshape</code>
		SMALL CAPS	<code>textsc</code>	<code>scshape</code>
	Bold	Upright	<code>textbf</code>	<code>bfseries</code>
		<i>Italic</i>	<i>bf & it</i>	
<i>Slanted</i>		<i>bf & sl</i>		
San Serif	Regular	Upright	<code>textsf</code>	<code>sffamily</code>
		<i>Slanted</i>	<i>sf & sl</i>	
	Bold	Upright	<i>sf & bf</i>	
Typewriter	Regular	Upright	<code>texttt</code>	<code>ttfamily</code>
		<i>Italic</i>	<i>tt & it</i>	
		<i>Slanted</i>	<i>tt & sl</i>	
		SMALL CAPS	<i>tt & sc</i>	

Table 1: The Computer Modern font families. Italics are abbreviations meaning combinations of commands given above them.

Source	Output
<code>\textit{half}life</code>	<i>half</i> life
<code>{\itshape half}life</code>	<i>half</i> life
<code>{\itshape half\}life</code>	<i>half</i> life
<code>'\textbf{f}'</code>	f
<code>'{\bfseries f}'</code>	f
<code>'{\bfseries f\}'</code>	f

Table 2: Two examples demonstrating ‘italic correction’. Note that it’s not only for italics!